SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-53491; File No. SR-ISE-2006-13)

March 16, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fee Changes

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 13, 2006, the International Securities Exchange, Inc. ("ISE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which items have been prepared by ISE. ISE has designated the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge, pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, <sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

ISE is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on 3 Premium Products.<sup>5</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is available on ISE's Web site at <a href="http://www.iseoptions.com">http://www.iseoptions.com</a>, at the Office of the Secretary at ISE, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Premium Products" are defined in the Schedule of Fees as the products enumerated therein.

# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on the following 3 Premium Products: Standard & Poor's MidCap 400 Depository Receipts ("MDY"), 6 iShares MSCI Canada Index Fund ("EWC"), 7 and iShares

<sup>&</sup>quot;Standard & Poor's®," "S&P®," "S&P 400®," "Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts®," "SPDR®," "Standard & Poor's MidCap 400 Depositary Receipts TM," and "MidCap SPDRs TM," are trademarks of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("McGraw-Hill") and have been licensed for use by PDR Services LLC and the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex") in connection with the listing and trading of MidCap SPDRs ("MDY") on the Amex. MDY is not sponsored, sold, or endorsed by Standard & Poor's, ("S&P"), a division of McGraw-Hill, and S&P makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in MDY. McGraw-Hill and S&P have not licensed or authorized ISE to (i) engage in the creation, listing, provision of a market for trading, marketing, and promotion of options on MDY or (ii) to use and refer to any of their trademarks or service marks in connection with the listing, provision of a market for trading, marketing, and promotion of options on MDY or with making disclosures concerning options on MDY under any applicable federal or state laws, rules, or regulations. McGraw-Hill and S&P do not sponsor, endorse, or promote such activity by ISE and are not affiliated in any manner with ISE.

iShares® is a registered trademark of Barclays Global Investors, N.A. ("BGI"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays Bank PLC. "MSCI Canada Index" and "MSCI EAFE Index" are service marks of Morgan Stanley Capital International ("MSCI") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by BGI. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners. Neither MSCI Canada Index Fund ("EWC") nor MSCI EAFE Index Fund ("EFA") are sponsored, endorsed, issued, sold or promoted by MSCI. BGI and MSCI have not licensed or authorized ISE to (i) engage in

MSCI EAFE Index Fund ("EFA"). Specifically, the Exchange is proposing to adopt an execution fee and a comparison fee for all transactions in options on MDY, EWC and EFA. The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for products covered by this filing would be \$0.15 and \$0.03 per contract, respectively, for all Public Customer Orders and Firm Proprietary orders. The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for all Market Maker transactions would be equal to the execution fee and comparison fee currently charged by the Exchange for Market Maker transactions in equity options. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will further the Exchange's goal of introducing new products to the marketplace that are competitively priced.

# 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the statutory basis for the proposal is the requirement under Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>12</sup> that an exchange have an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

the creation, listing, provision of a market for trading, marketing, and promotion of options on EWC and EFA or (ii) to use and refer to any of their trademarks or service marks in connection with the listing, provision of a market for trading, marketing, and promotion of options on EWC and EFA or with making disclosures concerning options on EWC and EFA under any applicable federal or state laws, rules or regulations. BGI and MSCI do not sponsor, endorse, or promote such activity by ISE, and are not affiliated in any manner with ISE.

- 8 See id.
- These fees will be charged to Exchange members. Under a pilot program that is set to expire on July 31, 2006, these fees will also be charged to Linkage Orders (as defined in ISE Rule 1900).
- Public Customer Order is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(33) as an order for the account of a Public Customer. Public Customer is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(32) as a person that is not a broker or dealer in securities.
- The execution fee is currently between \$.21 and \$.12 per contract side, depending on the Exchange Average Daily Volume, and the comparison fee is currently \$.03 per contract side.
- 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

## B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

ISE believes that the proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u>
<u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

## III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>13</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder<sup>14</sup> because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2006-13

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

on the subject line.

#### Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2006-13. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of ISE. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2006-13 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{15}$ 

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

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<sup>15 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).